
NEWS RELEASE

Louisiana
Department of State



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SMITHSONIAN MUSIC EXHIBIT MAKES ITS WAY TO LOUISIANA STATE OIL AND GAS MUSEUM

Secretary of State Jay Dardenne, the Friends of the Louisiana State Oil and Gas Museum and the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities are announcing the opening of the "New Harmonies: Celebrating American Roots Music" exhibit on Thursday, Dec. 11. The exhibit is a Smithsonian Traveling Exhibit and is on display through Jan. 15, 2009.

The main beat of the exhibition is the ongoing cultural process that has made America the birthplace of more music than any place on Earth. The exhibit provides a fascinating look into the American story of multicultural exchange that is full of surprises about familiar songs, histories of instruments, the roles of religion and technology and the continuity of musical roots.

Oil City, La., home of the museum, is the last venue where the exhibit will be on display in the state. In conjunction with this exhibit, "Elvis: On His Own in Shreveport" and "The Life and Legacy of Leadbelly" will be on display to showcase the unique musical heritage of northern Louisiana.

The public is invited to view the exhibit during regular museum hours: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The museum will be closed on Thursday, Dec. 25, Friday, Dec. 26, Thursday, Jan. 1, 2009 and Friday, Jan. 2, 2009 in observance of the holidays. Admission is free and the building is wheelchair accessible.

For a schedule of events pertaining to this exhibit and more information about the Louisiana State Oil and Gas Museum and the Secretary of State's Museums Division, visit our Web site at www.sos.louisiana.gov/lsoagm or call 318.995.6845.

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